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WASHINGTON STATE

ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL

MONTHLY MEETING

September 20, 2023

Lacey, Washington

Reporter: John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR

1 APPEARANCES

2 STATE AGENCY MEMBERS:

3 Kathleen Drew, Chair (*)

4 Elizabeth Osborne, Department of Commerce

5 Eli Levitt, Department of Ecology (*)

6 Mike Livingston, Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

7 Lenny Young, Department of Natural Resources

8 Stacey Brewster, Utilities & Transportation Comm.

9
10 LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OPTIONAL STATE AGENCIES:

11 Horse Heaven:

12 Derek Sandison, Department of Agriculture

13 Badger Mountain:

14 Jordyn Guilio, Douglas County

15 Wautoma Solar:

16 Dave Sharp, Benton County

17 Paul Gonseth, Washington State Department of
18 Transportation

19 ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL:

20 Jon Thompson

21 Jenna Slocum

22 ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE:

23 Adam Torem
24
25

1 APPEARANCES (Continuing)

2 COUNCIL STAFF:

3	Sonia Bumpus (*)	Sara Randolph
4	Ami Hafkemeyer (*)	Lance Caputo (*)
5	Amy Moon	John Barnes
6	Stew Henderson	Joanne Snarski
7	Joan Owens	Alex Shiley
8	Andrea Grantham (*)	Ali Smith (*)
9	Dave Walker	Karl Holappa (*)
10	Lisa Masengale	Christina Carlile

11 OPERATIONAL UPDATES:

12 Sara Randolph
13 Kittitas Valley Wind, EDP Renewables
14 Wild Horse Wind Power Project, Puget Sound Energy
15 Grays Harbor Energy Center, Grays Harbor Energy

16 Jeremy Smith
17 Chehalis Generation Facility, PacifiCorp

18 Mary Ramos
19 Columbia Generating Station & WNP-1/4, Energy
20 Northwest

21 Thomas Cushing
22 Columbia Solar, Tuusso Energy

23 Jacob Christ
24 Goose Prairie Solar, Brookfield Renewable

25 (*) indicates that the participant is attending in person in Lacey, Washington. (All other participants are attending remotely.)

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1 BE IT REMEMBERED that on Wednesday,
2 September 20, 2023, at 621 Woodland Square Loop
3 Southeast, Lacey, Washington, at 1:34 p.m., the
4 following Monthly Meeting of the Washington State
5 Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council was held, to
6 wit:

7
8 <<<<<< >>>>>>

9
10 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon.

11 Good afternoon. This is Kathleen Drew, Chair of
12 the Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council, calling
13 our meeting to order.

14 MS. OWENS: Chair Drew, we don't
15 have audio for you.

16 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Kathleen Drew.
17 Can you hear me? No.

18 (Brief pause in proceedings.)
19

20 MS. OWENS: Looks like we're still
21 experiencing some audio difficulties. We'll be at
22 the meeting shortly.

23 (Pause in proceedings from
24 1:35 p.m. to 1:41 p.m.)

25 ////

1 CHAIR DREW: Good afternoon. This
2 is Kathleen Drew, Chair of the Energy Facility Site
3 Evaluation Council, calling the September meeting to
4 order.

5 Ms. Grantham, will you call the roll.

6 MS. GRANTHAM: Certainly.

7 Department of Commerce.

8 Department of Ecology.

9 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt, present.

10 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of Fish
11 and Wildlife.

12 MR. LIVINGSTON: Mike Livingston,
13 here.

14 MS. GRANTHAM: Department of
15 Natural Resources.

16 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young, present.

17 MS. GRANTHAM: Utilities and
18 Transportation Commission.

19 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster,
20 present.

21 MS. GRANTHAM: For local government
22 and optional state agencies: For the Horse Heaven
23 project, Department of Agriculture.

24 MR. SANDISON: Derek Sandison,
25 present.

1 MS. GRANTHAM: Benton County, Ed
2 Brost.

3 For the Badger Mountain project, Douglas County.

4 For the Wautoma Solar Project: Benton County,
5 Dave Sharp.

6 Washington State Department of Transportation --

7 MR. SHARP: Present.

8 MS. GRANTHAM: Oh. Thank you,
9 Mr. Sharp.

10 Washington State Department of Transportation.

11 Hop --

12 MR. GONSETH: Paul Gonseth,
13 Washington State Department of Transportation.

14 MS. GRANTHAM: Thank you,
15 Mr. Gonseth.

16 Hop Hill Solar Project: For Benton County, Paul
17 Krupin.

18 For the Carriger Solar project: For Klickitat
19 County, Matt Chiles.

20 Assistant attorney generals: Jon Thompson.

21 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Andrea.

22 MS. GRANTHAM: Yes.

23 MS. HAFKEMEYER: We're getting
24 messages that the audio is out for you.

25 ////

1 (Pause in proceedings from
2 1:43 p.m. to 1:46 p.m.)

3
4 CHAIR DREW: Ms. Grantham, I think
5 maybe what we can do with the roll call is not call
6 through all the facilities. So we will just note
7 people are here as we go through our agenda.

8 MS. GRANTHAM: Sounds good.

9 And do you want me to still call all of the
10 staff?

11 CHAIR DREW: No.

12 MS. GRANTHAM: No. Okay.

13 CHAIR DREW: I think we're good.

14 And I did see Elizabeth Osborne on chat.

15 Ms. Osborne, can you --

16 MS. OSBORNE: Yes. Can you hear
17 me, Chair Drew? I -- my audio --

18 CHAIR DREW: Yes.

19 MS. OSBORNE: -- was out when I
20 think my name was called, but I heard a few people
21 after me, so chimed in via chat. And now I'm hearing
22 you.

23 CHAIR DREW: Great. Great.

24 So we didn't hear from our Badger -- I mean, our
25 Badger Mountain representative, and I think I saw her

1 name here. Let's just make sure we get all the
2 Council members.

3 MS. GRANTHAM: Okay. Yes, I'm
4 seeing in the chat that Jordyn Guilio is present.

5 CHAIR DREW: And we did -- we
6 didn't hear from Mr. Brost?

7 MS. GRANTHAM: We did not.

8 CHAIR DREW: Anyone else on your
9 list? Those are just my --

10 MS. GRANTHAM: And then I have Hop
11 Hill Solar: For Benton County, Paul Krupin.

12 CHAIR DREW: If any of the Council
13 members who are on can message us or let us know in
14 some manner if you are on. With that, we'll conclude
15 our roll call.

16 MS. OWENS: We may have lost audio
17 again. It went quiet.

18 (Brief pause in proceedings.)

19
20 MS. GRANTHAM: So Chair Drew was
21 concluding the roll call.

22 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Council
23 members -- let's try it this way with the mike
24 actually on.

25 Council members --

1 MS. OWENS: Chair Drew, you are
2 muted again.

3 CHAIR DREW: -- you have before you
4 the proposed agenda.

5 (Pause in proceedings from
6 1:48 p.m. to 1:50 p.m.)

7
8 CHAIR DREW: So I am back on. We
9 were discussing the issue here in the meeting. Can
10 you hear me now?

11 MS. OWENS: Yes, I can hear you
12 now.

13 CHAIR DREW: Okay. If they can
14 hear me, I'm going to continue.

15 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Okay. They can
16 hear you.

17 CHAIR DREW: Okay.
18 Council members, can you hear me?

19 MS. OWENS: Yes.

20 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Yes, they can.

21 CHAIR DREW: Okay.

22 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

23 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

24 CHAIR DREW: So we are going to
25 have a motion to adopt the proposed agenda.

1 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young. I move we
2 adopt the proposed agenda.

3 CHAIR DREW: Oh. Thank you.

4 MR. CHILES: Matt Chiles. I move
5 we second the proposed agenda.

6 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

7 All those in favor, say "aye."

8 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

9 (Discussion off the record
10 addressing technical issues.)

11
12 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Trying an
13 alternate way for me to speak.

14 Can everyone hear me?

15 MS. OWENS: Chair Drew, I can't
16 hear you.

17 CHAIR DREW: Okay.

18 MS. BUMPUS: She says she can't?

19 CHAIR DREW: Are you on "mute"?

20 MS. HAFKEMEYER: I was.

21 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Can you hear me
22 now?

23 MS. OWENS: Yes, I can hear you
24 now.

25 CHAIR DREW: Okay. It helps when

1 you unmute. Okay. Let's get back to business here.

2 Before us we have the August 16th, 2023, monthly
3 meeting minutes.

4 Is there a motion to approve the minutes?

5 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young. I move to
6 approve the minutes.

7 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

8 Second?

9 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster.

10 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt. Second.

11 MS. BREWSTER: Second.

12 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Second.

13 All -- oh. I do have one correction.

14 On Page 34, Line 13, the word "Council," capital
15 C-o-u-n-c-i-l, should be the word "counsel,"
16 c-o-u-n-s-e-l.

17 Are there any other changes to the minutes?

18 Hearing none. All those in favor of adopting the
19 August 16th monthly meeting minutes, please say
20 "aye."

21 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

22 CHAIR DREW: Opposed?

23 The minutes are adopted. Okay. Thank you.

24 We're moving on to the operational updates.

25 Kittitas Valley wind project. Ms. Randolph.

1 MS. RANDOLPH: Good afternoon,
2 Chair Drew, Council members, and staff. For the
3 record, this is Sara Randolph, site specialist for
4 Kittitas Valley.

5 The facility update is provided in your packet.
6 There were no nonroutine updates to report.

7 Any questions?

8 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

9 Moving on to Wild Horse wind power project.
10 Ms. Randolph.

11 MS. RANDOLPH: Hello again. For
12 the record, this is Sara Randolph, site specialist
13 for Wild Horse.

14 The facility update is provided in your packet.
15 There were no nonroutine updates to report.

16 Any questions?

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. Thank you.

18 Chehalis Generation Facility. Mr. Smith.

19 MR. SMITH: Good afternoon, Chair
20 Drew, Council members, and staff. This is Jeremy
21 Smith, the maintenance manager at the Chehalis
22 Generation Facility.

23 I have nothing nonroutine to note for the month
24 of August.

25 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

1 MR. SMITH: Are there any
2 questions?

3 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
4 Grays Harbor Energy Center. Mr. Sherin.

5 MS. RANDOLPH: Chair Drew, this is
6 Sara Randolph. I'll be speaking for Grays Harbor.
7 The facility --

8 CHAIR DREW: Go ahead.

9 MS. RANDOLPH: -- update is
10 provided in your packet. There were no nonroutine
11 updates to report.

12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
13 Columbia Solar.

14 MR. CUSHING: Good afternoon, Chair
15 Drew, EFSEC Council members, and staff. This is
16 Thomas Cushing, asset manager to the project.

17 The facility updates are in your packet. There
18 are no nonroutine updates to report.

19 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
20 Columbia Generating Station. Ms. Najera-Paxton.

21 MS. RAMOS: Good afternoon, Chair
22 Drew, EFSEC Council members, and staff. This is
23 actually Mary Ramos reporting for Energy Northwest.
24 Felicia Najera-Paxton is unable to report for Energy
25 Northwest today.

1 I only have one item to report for Columbia
2 Generating Station and no nonroutine items for WNP-1
3 and -4.

4 So for Columbia Generating Station, on September
5 13th, Energy Northwest attended the Washington State
6 Department of Ecology Resource Damage Assessment
7 Committee, and this was a pre-assessment screening
8 regarding the June 2023 oil leak into our circulating
9 water system. This -- this event was reported for
10 Columbia Generating Station back in June.

11 During the meeting, Energy Northwest provided
12 information regarding the events summary, including
13 the efforts we made to recover the oil from the
14 circular -- circulating water system, the
15 implementation of a pollution prevention and
16 mitigation strategy, and the collaboration with
17 Ecology and EFSEC from the day of the discovery until
18 we restored our blowdown operations and discharge to
19 the river.

20 The Ecology RDA Committee voted to apply the
21 compensation schedule that's established in the
22 Washington Administrative Code 173-183, and Energy
23 Northwest has the option to work with the RDA
24 Committee to provide additional information. For
25 example, we've already provided to Ecology the

1 information we received from GrayMar, which was our
2 contractor for recovering the oil. We submitted the
3 documentation that we received from GrayMar as far as
4 the estimated amount of oil that was recovered.

5 Are there any questions for me?

6 CHAIR DREW: Mr. Young.

7 MR. YOUNG: Thank you very much. I
8 really appreciate the follow-up and the additional
9 information. Much appreciated.

10 MS. RAMOS: Thank you.

11 CHAIR DREW: Any other questions?
12 Thank you.

13 Moving on to Goose Prairie Solar.

14 MR. CHRIST: Good afternoon, Chair
15 Drew, EFSEC Council, and staff. So for the record,
16 this is Jacob Christ, senior project manager with
17 Brookfield Renewable, providing the Goose Prairie
18 Solar update.

19 So we don't have any nonroutine updates. The
20 construction updates on the site right now: So we're
21 continuing with our substation build-out and
22 foundation. Our mainline road and branch roads are
23 under construction. And our PV array grading has
24 commenced in the northwest area of the project.

25 I do have one public outreach update I want to

1 provide. So Brookfield along with our contractor
2 PCL, we've procured six defibrillators for the City
3 of Moxee police cruisers along with a monetary
4 donation for first responders for that area. We plan
5 on holding an event at the project site sometime in
6 late October. So when I have more details, I can
7 work with Sara to provide those details.

8 And that's all. Any questions?

9 CHAIR DREW: Thank you for that.

10 Are there any questions from Council members?

11 Thank you.

12 High Top and Ostrea project updates.

13 Ms. Randolph.

14 MS. RANDOLPH: Chair Drew, Council
15 members, and staff, for the record, this is Sara
16 Randolph, site specialist for High Top and Ostrea.

17 EFSEC staff are coordinating with the certificate
18 holder on preconstruction plans and schedules.

19 Any questions?

20 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. Thank you.

21 Whistling Ridge. Mr. Caputo. Ms. Hafkemeyer.

22 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Can you hear me
23 from there, or should I come closer?

24 THE REPORTER: I didn't hear that,
25 but...

1 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Can somebody on
2 the line confirm whether or not you can hear me?

3 Ms. OWENS: I can hear you.

4 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you, Chair
5 Drew and Council members. For the record, this is
6 Ami Hafkemeyer. I will be providing the update for
7 Whistling Ridge facility this afternoon.

8 On September 12th, 2023, EFSEC staff issued
9 notice for the informational hearing to be held the
10 evening of October 9th. Subsequently, we received
11 feedback from interested parties and accompanying
12 public records requests that staff are working to
13 respond to.

14 In review of this information as well as legal
15 guidance from our AG, EFSEC staff will be
16 rescheduling the October 9th hearing into two
17 separate hearings to be held at a later date. The
18 separate hearings will address each request from the
19 certificate holder individually. There will be one
20 meeting to take comment on the request for -- request
21 to transfer ownership pursuant to Washington
22 Administrative Code, or WAC, 463-66-100 and a second
23 hearing to take comment on the request to extend the
24 term of the site certification agreement pursuant to
25 WAC 463-66-030 and 463-66-040.

1 Staff will be reaching out to the Council for
2 availability for these hearings, and the rescheduled
3 hearings will be noticed to the public once details
4 become available.

5 Are there any questions?

6 CHAIR DREW: Are there any
7 questions for Ms. Hafkemeyer?

8 Thank you.

9 Moving on to Desert Claim project update.

10 Ms. Moon.

11 MS. MOON: Good afternoon, Council
12 Chair Drew and Council members. This is Amy Moon
13 providing a project update on Desert Claim.

14 As reported in previous EFSEC Council meetings,
15 the Desert Claim site certificate holder, EDF
16 Renewables, submitted a proposed amendment to the
17 project site certification agreement, or SCA. This
18 proposed amendment is for an extension of the
19 substantial completion date from November 13th of
20 2023 to November 13th of 2028. The current signed
21 site certification agreement authorizes the
22 certificate holder to construct the project such that
23 substantial completion is achieved no later than five
24 years from the date that Amendment No. 1 was approved
25 by the Council on November 13th of 2018.

1 EFSEC held a public informational meeting on July
2 13th of 2023 for the requested amendment to the
3 Desert Claim SCA. We received one written comment
4 against the project.

5 The EFSEC assistant attorney general reviewed the
6 proposed amendment request and prepared a legal
7 advice memo for your review. And at this time, I
8 will turn this Council update over to Ami Hafkemeyer,
9 who has additional information on the request from
10 the certificate holder.

11 Ami.

12 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you,
13 Ms. Moon.

14 For the record, again, this is Ami Hafkemeyer.

15 At request, EFSEC staff have prepared a
16 recommendation on the Desert Claim extension
17 amendment. Staff recommends the Council vote to
18 approve the certificate holder's request for
19 extension for reasons I will now describe.

20 The language in House Bill 1812 states it is the
21 policy of the State of Washington to reduce
22 dependence on fossil fuels by recognizing the need
23 for clean energy in order to strengthen the state's
24 economy, meet the state's greenhouse gas reduction
25 obligations, and mitigate the significant near-term

1 and long-term impacts from climate change while
2 conducting a public process that is transparent and
3 inclusive to all, with particular attention to
4 overburdened communities.

5 In considering the intent described by this
6 language, staff feel that this facility would be in
7 alignment with the goals of HB 1812. However, this
8 alone is not sufficient for staff to recommend
9 approval. In review of this particular request,
10 staff recognizes that this developer appears ready
11 and able to proceed with construction as soon as they
12 secure a power purchase contract.

13 Additionally, the project went under an EFSEC
14 public comment process and supplemental environmental
15 impact statement with their project redesign in 2018
16 and have actively been competing in requests for
17 proposals for contracts and expect more in the near
18 term. Staff recognize that while the certification
19 is not new, the project appears to have been active
20 in the interim and have concluded that an extension
21 would be more appropriate than termination and
22 requiring the certificate holder to submit a new -- a
23 new application under which to proceed.

24 The 2018 amendment request was reviewed under the
25 State Environmental Policy Act during the review

1 process prior to Council approval. However, this
2 review is limited to changes in the proposal rather
3 than the entirety of the project. Therefore, EFSEC
4 staff would like to recommend the following
5 provisions associated with the recommended approval
6 in order to ensure that the required mitigation are
7 still protective of environmental standards and
8 conditions.

9 The following recommendations are intended to
10 account for potentially changed conditions in the
11 project area, industry or agency practices that have
12 evolved since the initial certification, and
13 information that has become available since the 2018
14 amendment of the project.

15 The Council has indicated previously that an
16 unlimited build window is not appropriate. In light
17 of this, staff recommend that the resolution contain
18 language that caps any further extension requests
19 beyond the current request. Any further extension
20 requests would not be allowed unless construction is
21 reasonably underway but may not reach the definition
22 of substantial completion.

23 Given the new State requirement that the project
24 apply for the construction of the ADLS towers -- and
25 I'm sorry; I can't remember what that acronym stands

1 for, but it's the lighting on the turbines -- there
2 is potential for additional impacts associated with
3 this installation. Additional SEPA analysis would be
4 required associated with the installation if FAA
5 approved, which may result in additional or altered
6 mitigation.

7 Post-construction monitoring for wildlife
8 carcasses is set at a minimum of one year.
9 Currently, EFSEC is generally requiring two to three
10 years as a minimum to reduce the risk of an outlier
11 year skewing results. Staff recommend that these
12 post-construction -- post-construction monitoring
13 timelines be reviewed for potential extension in
14 alignment with current practices when the developer
15 submits required preconstruction habitat and
16 vegetation plans for review. This monitoring would
17 be incorporated into the scope of the technical
18 advisory committee, or TAC.

19 Staff recommend that the resolution require
20 applicant provide, with their waste management plan,
21 a commitment to recycle project components when
22 possible.

23 And to circle back, the "ADLS" stands for
24 "aircraft detection lighting system," so for those of
25 you who are new to that.

1 And then, lastly, the certificate holder's most
2 recent site layout included turbines located less
3 than half a mile from seven nonparticipating
4 residences. Staff recommend the certificate holder
5 consider the feasibility during micro-siting of
6 placing all turbines more than half a mile from
7 nonparticipating residences to avoid dominating views
8 from these sensitive viewing locations. And staff
9 would recommend this review be submitted to the
10 Council.

11 Are there any questions?

12 CHAIR DREW: Thank you,
13 Ms. Hafkemeyer.

14 Are there any questions from Council members?

15 MS. BREWSTER: This is Stacey
16 Brewster. On --

17 CHAIR DREW: Go ahead.

18 MS. BREWSTER: -- Ms. Hafkemeyer's
19 last point, staff would recommend that they consider
20 feasibility. Is -- is there any teeth behind that?
21 Is there a requirement to that extent, or is it a
22 request?

23 MS. HAFKEMEYER: I think we have
24 some flexibility on how we word that recommendation.
25 We could indicate that they would be required to

1 review and provide justification for any turbines
2 that they would need to feel be placed closer than
3 half a mile.

4 MS. BREWSTER: Thanks.

5 CHAIR DREW: Any other questions or
6 comments from Council members?

7 I do also want to add just for the public that
8 the reference to House Bill 1812 was a legislative
9 bill that was passed in 2022 and went into effect a
10 year ago. So it's now part of EFSEC's statute, for
11 those who are not familiar with that reference.

12 Is there discussion among Council members about
13 the recommendation from staff to draft that? How
14 does the Council want to go with this in terms of
15 drafting a resolution?

16 I see someone with a hand up. I need to know who
17 that is.

18 Lenny. Mr. Young. Go ahead.

19 MR. YOUNG: Yeah. Could -- could I
20 ask for clarity on what it is we'll be voting on
21 today? Are we voting on an extension or a
22 conditional extension provided that the applicant
23 adopts and accepts the staff recommendations?

24 CHAIR DREW: If it's the will of
25 the Council, we can vote -- direct the staff to

1 develop a resolution for our next meeting which
2 includes the conditions that they have laid out in
3 the memo we received this morning and that Ami has
4 verbally -- Ms. Hafkemeyer has verbally stated to the
5 Council in this meeting.

6 MR. YOUNG: So we'd be -- if we go
7 down that path, we'd be asking for a resolution to
8 vote on, that it goes beyond simply granting the
9 requested extension and it adds some staff
10 recommendations as conditions of that extension; is
11 that correct?

12 CHAIR DREW: Yes.

13 MR. YOUNG: Thank you.

14 CHAIR DREW: Any other comments or
15 questions or discussion?

16 I also think that there are some items that were
17 referred to for background in the applicant's -- or
18 the certificate holder's memo concerning statewide
19 law that has been passed as well, which includes the
20 requirements for renewable energy and for clean
21 electricity that we can add to the background that
22 the staff will provide to us.

23 Okay. Thank you.

24 So is there a motion to direct staff to determine
25 whether the certificate holder is willing to modify?

1 So here's -- I have gotten some specific language for
2 us to consider:

3 To direct staff to determine whether the
4 certificate holder is willing to modify its request
5 to include the proposed conditions, and if so, to
6 prepare a resolution granting the requested
7 amendment, subject to the proposed conditions.

8 That's further --

9 MR. YOUNG: Lenny Young. So moved.

10 CHAIR DREW: Thank you. Thank you.

11 And second?

12 MS. BREWSTER: Stacey Brewster.

13 Second.

14 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.

15 Any further discussion?

16 All those in favor, please say "aye."

17 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

18 CHAIR DREW: Okay. Opposed?

19 The motion is adopted. And so the staff will
20 determine whether the certificate holder is willing
21 to modify the request, and if so, prepare a
22 resolution granting the requested amendment, subject
23 to the proposed conditions. Thank you.

24 Moving on to the Horse Heaven Wind Farm project
25 update. Ms. Moon.

1 MS. MOON: Thank you, Chair Drew.
2 Again, for the record, this is Amy Moon providing an
3 update on the Horse Heaven wind project.

4 EFSEC staff continued working on the preparation
5 of the final environmental impact statement, or final
6 EIS, by incorporating public comments, agency
7 outreach, tribal consultation, and mitigation
8 development.

9 This effort includes working with Washington
10 State agency subject matter experts on the impact
11 analysis and fine-tuning recommended mitigation
12 opportunities to publish the final EIS.

13 EFSEC staff are working closely with our
14 consultant, WSP, to update the "affected environment"
15 and "analysis of potential impact" sections to
16 reflect public comments, agency input, and current
17 information. EFSEC staff have also been working with
18 the applicant to better understand and prepare for
19 their submittal of an updated post-adjudication
20 application for site certification.

21 The applicant is required to submit application
22 amendments, which shall include all commitments and
23 stipulations made by the applicant during the
24 adjudicative hearings. These updates to the
25 application are due within 30 days after the

1 conclusion of the hearings per Washington

2 Administrative Code -- that'd be WAC -- 463-60-116.

3 As we prepare to issue the final EIS, EFSEC staff
4 have reached out to confirm whether Council members
5 would prefer a hard copy or an electronic copy of the
6 final EIS, so get back to Andrea or Joan, I believe.

7 We are also coordinating with subject matter
8 experts to be available to answer Council questions
9 when we present the final EIS to the Council and the
10 public. We currently anticipate that this
11 presentation will happen at the October Council
12 meeting. We will notify the Council and the public
13 as details are finalized.

14 Lastly, staff are working to schedule
15 deliberative meetings for the Council following the
16 adjudicative hearings that concluded on Friday,
17 August 25th. Following these discussions, the
18 Council will prepare the adjudicative order to then
19 be used along with the final EIS in developing the
20 recommendation to the governor.

21 Does the Council have any questions?

22 CHAIR DREW: Are there any
23 questions for Ms. Moon?

24 Okay. Thank you for the update.

25 Moving on to the Badger Mountain project.

1 Ms. Snarski.

2 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you, Chair
3 Drew. And good afternoon, Council members. For the
4 record, this is Joanne Snarski, the siting specialist
5 for Badger Mountain Solar.

6 Progress continues to be made on the development
7 of our draft environmental impact statement. We have
8 made significant strides on the review of the natural
9 resource sections with our contracted agency
10 partners. These include the Departments of Ecology,
11 Fish and Wildlife, and Natural Resources.

12 At the previous Council meeting, staff identified
13 that we were working with the Department of
14 Archaeological and Historic Preservation, Department
15 of Natural Resources, the Yakama Nation technical
16 staff, and Colville Confederated Tribes technical
17 staff on review of the revised draft of the cultural
18 resources survey report.

19 In conclusion of this coordinated effort, staff
20 have determined that additional survey work is
21 needed, and we are coordinating with our consultant
22 to prepare for this additional activity. Our goal is
23 to complete this work and incorporate the findings
24 into the draft environmental impact statement.

25 Are there any questions?

1 CHAIR DREW: Any questions for
2 Ms. Snarski?

3 MS. GUILIO: This is Jordyn Guilio
4 with Douglas County. I had a question about the
5 timeline on the draft EIS.

6 I saw that there's a proposed extension. It
7 looks like the estimated completion is about a year
8 out. Is that an average timeline for this process?

9 MS. SNARSKI: I was going to
10 address that -- that next. If you would like to wait
11 till after I've provided explanation and you still
12 have a question, we could go forward from that.

13 MS. GUILIO: Yes. No problem.
14 Thank you.

15 MS. SNARSKI: Sure.

16 CHAIR DREW: Go ahead, Ms. Snarski.

17 MS. SNARSKI: And if there's no
18 questions, moving on to the extension request.

19 In your packets, you will find the request
20 received by the applicant dated September 6. This
21 request is for 18 months. This timeline was
22 coordinated between staff and the applicant. This
23 extended time period is to ensure that we -- we can
24 complete the remaining cultural resource survey work
25 and incorporate it into our draft environmental

1 impact statement. This timeline is also inclusive of
2 issuance of the draft EIS and the subsequent public
3 comment period, the adjudicative proceedings that
4 must occur, issuance of the final EIS, and ultimately
5 the Council's recommendation to the governor.

6 Also, just as a point of process, this letter was
7 available to the public for review and comment last
8 week. There were no comments received on this
9 extension request.

10 Comment, questions?

11 CHAIR DREW: Questions for
12 Ms. Snarski?

13 Ms. Guilio, does that answer your question?

14 MS. GUILIO: Yes, that's fine.

15 CHAIR DREW: Because it is more
16 than the draft EIS. It's the rest of the process
17 that will conclude the EIS and as well as the
18 adjudication.

19 MS. GUILIO: So what my question
20 was actually referencing: In that letter, it
21 estimates the issuance of the draft EIS in third
22 quarter of '24, which is about a year away. So
23 that -- that was my question, is: Is that an average
24 timeline for developing a draft EIS? I understand
25 that the full extension is for much more work than

1 that. But, you know, this is my first time through,
2 and I just was, you know, asking for clarification if
3 that's a normal timeline. Or I know we've had a lot
4 of work on the archaeological side that's been
5 discussed. So that was more my -- my curiosity and
6 request for clarification.

7 CHAIR DREW: I'll ask
8 Ms. Hafkemeyer to give more detail there.

9 MS. HAFKEMEYER: Thank you, Chair
10 Drew. This is a little bit longer than we initially
11 anticipated. However, given the timing of the
12 additional fieldwork, we do have concerns about
13 completing this additional survey work and being able
14 to get out into the field with fall and winter
15 approaching.

16 The nature of this survey is that if there is
17 snow on the ground, we cannot be in the field. The
18 resources we're trying to identify would not be
19 visible. And so this timeline is inclusive of
20 potentially needing to wait until snow has cleared up
21 to be able to complete this work. And so it is
22 intended to be inclusive of potential issues like
23 that.

24 CHAIR DREW: Does that answer your
25 question? Do you have further questions?

1 MS. GUILIO: Nope. That completely
2 answers my question. Thank you.

3 CHAIR DREW: And I believe that if
4 we do get done earlier, then we'll issue it and
5 move -- move more quickly, so I think we would all
6 be -- that would be a good thing for all of us.
7 Thank you.

8 So before us is the request for the extension.
9 You've heard the description from staff and the
10 reasons for the timeline.

11 Is there a motion to accept the extension request
12 for an additional -- the Badger Mountain Solar energy
13 project application to be extended an additional 18
14 months to April 7, 2025?

15 MR. LIVINGSTON: This is Mike
16 Livingston. So moved.

17 CHAIR DREW: Thank you.
18 Is there a second?

19 MR. LEVITT: Eli Levitt. Second.

20 CHAIR DREW: Eli Levitt, second.
21 Discussion?

22 All those in favor, please say "aye."

23 MULTIPLE SPEAKERS: Aye.

24 CHAIR DREW: All those opposed?
25 The motion is adopted. Thank you.

1 Moving on to the Wautoma project -- Solar project
2 update. Mr. Caputo.

3 MR. CAPUTO: Thank you. Thank you,
4 Chair Drew and Council members. For the record, my
5 name is Lance Caputo. I am the siting specialist
6 assigned to the Wautoma Solar energy project.

7 The applicants for the Wautoma Solar energy
8 project recently submitted their draft supplemental
9 cultural resource survey requested by EFSEC and the
10 Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation.
11 We are presently reviewing the report for compliance.
12 If we receive concurrence from DAHP, we will prepare
13 a SEPA threshold determination.

14 May I answer any questions?

15 CHAIR DREW: Are there any
16 questions for Mr. Caputo? Thank you.

17 Moving on to the Hop Hill Solar Project update.
18 Mr. Barnes.

19 MR. BARNES: Thank you, Chair Drew
20 and Council members. For the record, this is John
21 Barnes, EFSEC staff, for the Hop Hill application
22 update for August.

23 We are continuing to coordinate and review the
24 application with our contractor, contracted agencies,
25 and tribal governments. Our assistant attorney

1 general is working on the legal brief for the
2 land-use consistency to be provided ahead of the
3 October Council meeting. There are no other updates
4 to report on.

5 Are there any questions?

6 CHAIR DREW: Any questions for
7 Mr. Barnes?

8 Thank you.

9 Moving on to the Carriger Solar project update.
10 Ms. Snarski.

11 MS. SNARSKI: Thank you, Chair Drew
12 and Council members. For the record, this is Joanne
13 Snarski, the siting specialist for Carriger Solar.

14 Prior to last month's Council meeting, in
15 accordance with the Revised Code of Washington, or
16 RCW, 80.50.090, Sub 3, Sub a, the EFSEC director
17 notified the applicant of the intent to issue a
18 determination of significance under RCW 43.21C. Also
19 in accordance with RCW 80.50.090, Sub 3, Sub a, the
20 applicant is allowed to provide clarification or make
21 changes to the proposal to mitigate the anticipated
22 environmental impacts. We are currently working with
23 the applicant regarding possible changes for the
24 EFSEC-identified items of significance, which are the
25 cultural resources and viewshed aesthetics, while

1 they develop their formal response to the director's
2 notification.

3 In addition to ongoing meetings with the
4 applicant, EFSEC has determined that it will be
5 necessary to further inform our SEPA determination
6 regarding cultural resources to contract with the
7 Yakama Nation cultural resources program to have them
8 complete a confidential traditional cultural
9 properties study. The scope of this work is
10 currently being coordinated with the Yakama Nation.

11 Are there any questions?

12 CHAIR DREW: Are there any
13 questions for Ms. Snarski about these items for
14 Carriger Solar?

15 Thank you very much.

16 And with that, I apologize for our technical
17 difficulties throughout. But we have completed our
18 agenda for today. So thank you, all, for your
19 participation. And we are adjourned.

20 (Meeting adjourned at
21 2:28 p.m.)
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25

1 STATE OF WASHINGTON) I, John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR,
2) ss a certified court reporter
3 County of Pierce) in the State of Washington, do
4 hereby certify:

5 That the foregoing Monthly Meeting of the Washington
6 State Energy Facility Site Evaluation Council was conducted
7 in my presence and adjourned on September 20, 2023, and
8 thereafter was transcribed under my direction; that the
9 transcript is a full, true and complete transcript of the
10 said meeting, transcribed to the best of my ability;

11 That I am not a relative, employee, attorney or counsel
12 of any party to this matter or relative or employee of any
13 such attorney or counsel and that I am not financially
14 interested in the said matter or the outcome thereof;

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand
16 this 9th day of October, 2023.

17 _____
18 s/ John M.S. Botelho, CCR, RPR
19 Certified Court Reporter No. 2976
20 (Certification expires 5/26/2024.)
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